

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with John M. Weyrauch on 29 December 2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 1, line 1, "An apparatus" has been changed to -A riding mower having an apparatus—;

In claim 1, lines 1 and 2, "of a riding mower" has been deleted;

In claim 2, line 1, "apparatus" has been changed to -riding mower—;

In claim 3, line 1, "apparatus" has been changed to -riding mower—;

In claim 4, line 1, "apparatus" has been changed to -riding mower—;

In claim 5, line 1, "apparatus" has been changed to -riding mower—;

In claim 6, line 1, "apparatus" has been changed to -riding mower—;

In claim 7, line 1, "apparatus" has been changed to -riding mower—;

In claim 8, line 1, "apparatus" has been changed to -riding mower—;

In claim 14, line 1, "A deck lift system" has been changed to -A riding mower having a deck lift system—;

In claim 14, lines 1 and 2, "of a riding mower" has been deleted;

In claim 17, line 1, "deck lift system" has been changed to -riding mower—.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ALICIA M. TORRES whose telephone number is (571)272-6997. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas B. Will can be reached on (571) 272-6998. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Alicia M Torres/
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Application Number**Application/Control No.**

10/821,026

**Applicant(s)/Patent under
Reexamination**

REICH, PAT

Examiner

ALICIA M. TORRES

Art Unit

3671